

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

Jovo Blesich

(Name of the plaintiff or plaintiffs)

v.

Corn Products

600 S. Archer Ave

Bedford Park IL 60501

(Name of the defendant or defendants)

**08CV4590**

**JUDGE GETTELMAN  
MAGISTRATE JUDGE MASON**

**RECEIVED**

*Aug 13, 2008*

**AUG 13 2008 J.C**

**MICHAEL W. DOBBINS  
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT**

**COMPLAINT OF EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION**

1. This is an action for employment discrimination.

2. The plaintiff is Jovo Blesich of the county of Lake in the state of Illinois.

3. The defendant is Corn Products International, whose street address is 600 S. Archer Ave.

(city) Bedford Park (county) Cook (state) Illinois (ZIP) 60501

(Defendant's telephone number) (708) - 563 - 2400

II The plaintiff sought employment or was employed by the defendant at (street address)

600 S. Archer Ave (city) Bedford Park

(county) Cook (state) ILL (ZIP code) 60501

5. The plaintiff [check one box]

(a)  was denied employment by the defendant.

(b)  was hired and is still employed by the defendant.

(c)  was employed but is no longer employed by the defendant.

6. The defendant discriminated against the plaintiff on or about, or beginning on or about, (month) 11, (day) 1, (year) 2006.

**7.1 (Choose paragraph 7.1 or 7.2, do not complete both.)**

(a) The defendant is not a federal governmental agency, and the plaintiff [check one box]  ~~has not~~  has filed a charge or charges against the defendant

asserting the acts of discrimination indicated in this complaint with any of the following government agencies:

(i)  the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, on or about (month) 8 (day) 10 (year) 2007.

(ii)  the Illinois Department of Human Rights, on or about (month) 8 (day) 10 (year) 2007.

(b) If charges were filed with an agency indicated above, a copy of the charge is attached.  YES.  NO, but plaintiff will file a copy of the charge within 14 days.

It is the policy of both the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Illinois Department of Human Rights to cross-file with the other agency all charges received. The plaintiff has no reason to believe that this policy was not followed in this case.

7.2 The defendant is a federal governmental agency, and

(a) the plaintiff previously filed a Complaint of Employment Discrimination with the defendant asserting the acts of discrimination indicated in this court complaint.

Yes (month) 8 (day) 10 (year) 2007

No, did not file Complaint of Employment Discrimination

2. The plaintiff received a Final Agency Decision on (month) 5 (day) 13 (year) 2008.

c. Attached is a copy of the

a. Complaint of Employment Discrimination,

YES  NO, but a copy will be filed within 14 days.

(ii) Final Agency Decision

YES  NO, but a copy will be filed within 14 days.

8. (*Complete paragraph 8 only if defendant is not a federal governmental agency.*)

(a)  the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has not issued a

*Notice of Right to Sue.*

(b)  the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has issued a

*Notice of Right to Sue*, which was received by the plaintiff on

(month) 5 (day) 13 (year) 2008 a copy of which *Notice* is attached to this complaint.

9. The defendant discriminated against the plaintiff because of the plaintiff's [*check only those that apply*]:

(a)  Age (Age Discrimination Employment Act).

(b)  Color (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 42 U.S.C. §1981).

(c)  Disability (Americans with Disabilities Act or Rehabilitation Act)

(d)  National Origin (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 42 U.S.C. §1981).

(e)  Race (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 42 U.S.C. §1981).

(f)  Religion (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964)

(g)  Sex (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964)

10. If the defendant is a state, county, municipal (city, town or village) or other local governmental agency, plaintiff further alleges discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin (42 U.S.C. § 1983).

11. Jurisdiction over the statutory violation alleged is conferred as follows: for Title VII claims by 28 U.S.C. §1331, 28 U.S.C. §1343(a)(3), and 42 U.S.C. §2000e-5(f)(3); for 42 U.S.C. §1981 and §1983 by 42 U.S.C. §1988; for the A.D.E.A. by 42 U.S.C. §12117; for the Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. § 791.

12. The defendant [*check only those that apply*]

(a)  failed to hire the plaintiff.

(b)  terminated the plaintiff's employment.

(c)  failed to promote the plaintiff.

- (d)  failed to reasonably accommodate the plaintiff's religion.
- (e)  failed to reasonably accommodate the plaintiff's disabilities.
- (f)  failed to stop harassment;
- (g)  retaliated against the plaintiff because the plaintiff did something to assert rights protected by the laws identified in paragraphs 9 and 10 above;
- (h)  other (specify): Did not give me the chance to transfer to the (LAB Dept) even though by Union agreement I should have had the 1<sup>st</sup> choice. JB.

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13. The facts supporting the plaintiff's claim of discrimination are as follows:

I was in the Transfer Book for over a year + half and the (LAB Job) was posted during this time, I was not given the chance to transfer and was passed over by other employees to another area. Also the Union by laws states we the (employees) would have 1<sup>st</sup> chance before hiring outside?  
This was not done.

14. **[AGE DISCRIMINATION ONLY]** Defendant knowingly, intentionally, and willfully discriminated against the plaintiff. yes

15. The plaintiff demands that the case be tried by a jury.  YES  NO JB.

16. THEREFORE, the plaintiff asks that the court grant the following relief to the plaintiff [check only those that apply]

- (a)  Direct the defendant to hire the plaintiff.
- (b)  Direct the defendant to re-employ the plaintiff.
- (c)  Direct the defendant to promote the plaintiff.
- (d)  Direct the defendant to reasonably accommodate the plaintiff's religion.
- (e)  Direct the defendant to reasonably accommodate the plaintiff's disabilities.

(f)  Direct the defendant to (specify): To admit Fault +  
to give plaintiff a monetary gift forculo stress  
+ not follow Union rules, binding both Corn Products  
+ 7-507 USW Local.

(g)  If available, grant the plaintiff appropriate injunctive relief, lost wages, liquidated/double damages, front pay, compensatory damages, punitive damages, prejudgment interest, post-judgment interest, and costs, including reasonable attorney fees and expert witness fees.

(h)  Grant such other relief as the Court may find appropriate.

(Plaintiff's signature)

(Plaintiff's name)

(Plaintiff's street address)

8890 Calhoun Pl

C

(City) Clown Point (State) TN (ZIP) 46307

(Plaintiff's telephone number) (219) - 558 - 0505

Date: 8-12-08

#### LOCAL RULES 5.2 — 5.4

##### LR5.2. Form of Papers Filed

(a) PAPER AND FONT SIZE. Each document filed shall be flat and unfolded on opaque, unglazed, white paper approximately 8 1/2 x 11 inches in size. It shall be plainly written, or typed, or printed, or prepared by means of a duplicating process, without erasures or interlineations which materially deface it. It shall be bound or secured on the top edge of the document. Where the document is typed, line spacing will be at least 1 1/2 lines. Where it is typed or printed, (1) the size of the type in the body of the text shall be 12 points and that in footnotes, no less than 11 points, and (2) the margins, left-hand, right-hand, top, and bottom, shall each be 1 inch.



**U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION  
Chicago District Office**

FILE REVIEWS FAX: (312) 886-1168  
MEDIATION: (312) 353-6676  
HEARINGS FAX: (312) 886-5391

500 West Madison Street, Suite 2000  
Chicago, IL 60661  
PH: (312) 353-2713  
TTY: (312) 353-2421  
ENFORCEMENT FAX: (312) 886-1168  
STATE & LOCAL FAX: (312) 353-4041  
LEGAL FAX: (312) 353-8555

Mr. Jovo Blesich  
8890 Calhoun Place  
Crown Point, Indiana 46307

Re: Blesich v. Corn Products International, Inc.  
EEOC Number: 440-2007-06513

Dear Mr. Blesich:

Enclosed you will find a Non-Disclosure form for your completion and signature. Please reference the above information on the enclosed form.

Also, please sign this letter at the bottom indicating that you agree to pay ALOHA DOCUMENT SERVICES for copying costs. After we have received the forms from you, we will send the file to the copy service. IF A COMPLAINT HAS BEEN FILED IN FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT, PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY OF THE FIRST TWO (2) PAGES OF THE COMPLAINT, SHOWING THE STAMPED DOCKET NUMBER.

Date: July 28, 2008

*Sylvia Bustos (b)*

Sylvia Bustos  
Investigator Support Assistant  
[sylvia.bustos@eeoc.gov](mailto:sylvia.bustos@eeoc.gov)  
Phone: 312-353-8783      Fax: 312-886-1168

(PLEASE CHECK ONE)

I do not choose to review the file before it is copied.

-or-

I want to review the file before it is copied.

If you wish to review the file, review is by appointment only. You will be contacted to schedule an appointment; please be advised that you must bring picture identification with you for access to the office.

I agree to pay Aloha Document Services for copying the documents requested in the file and I understand that I will not be charged more than fifteen (.15) to twenty-two cents (.22) per page.

Date: 7-30-08

*Jovo Blesich* *Jmo Blesich*  
Signature (print name)

## U.S. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

## DISMISSAL AND NOTICE OF RIGHTS

To: Jovo Blesich  
8890 Calhoun Place  
Crown Point, IN 46307

From: Chicago District Office  
500 West Madison St  
Suite 2800  
Chicago, IL 60661

CERTIFIED MAIL 7099 3400 0018 8814 8686

On behalf of person(s) aggrieved whose identity is ——————  
**CONFIDENTIAL (29 CFR §1601.7(a))**

EEOC Charge No.

EEOC Representative

Telephone No.

440-2007-06513

**Sherice Galloway,  
Investigator**

**(312) 886-4824**

## THE EEOC IS CLOSING ITS FILE ON THIS CHARGE FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

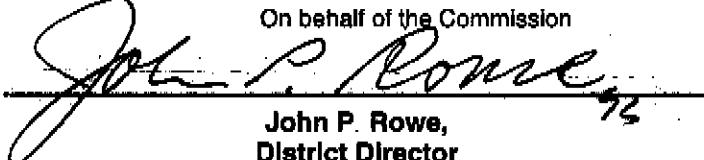
- The facts alleged in the charge fail to state a claim under any of the statutes enforced by the EEOC.
- Your allegations did not involve a disability as defined by the Americans With Disabilities Act.
- The Respondent employs less than the required number of employees or is not otherwise covered by the statutes.
- Your charge was not timely filed with EEOC; in other words, you waited too long after the date(s) of the alleged discrimination to file your charge.
- The EEOC issues the following determination: Based upon its investigation, the EEOC is unable to conclude that the information obtained establishes violations of the statutes. This does not certify that the respondent is in compliance with the statutes. No finding is made as to any other issues that might be construed as having been raised by this charge.
- The EEOC has adopted the findings of the state or local fair employment practices agency that investigated this charge.
- Other (briefly state)

**- NOTICE OF SUIT RIGHTS -**  
(See the additional information attached to this form.)

**Title VII, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and/or the Age Discrimination in Employment Act:** This will be the only notice of dismissal and of your right to sue that we will send you. You may file a lawsuit against the respondent(s) under federal law based on this charge in federal or state court. Your lawsuit **must be filed WITHIN 90 DAYS** of your receipt of this notice; or your right to sue based on this charge will be lost. (The time limit for filing suit based on a state claim may be different.)

**Equal Pay Act (EPA):** EPA suits must be filed in federal or state court within 2 years (3 years for willful violations) of the alleged EPA underpayment. This means that backpay due for any violations that occurred **more than 2 years (3 years)** before you file suit may not be collectible.

On behalf of the Commission

  
John P. Rowe,  
District Director

5/13/08  
(Date Mailed)

Enclosures(s)

cc: CORN PRODUCTS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

**CHARGE OF DISCRIMINATION**

This form is affected by the Privacy Act of 1974. See enclosed Privacy Act Statement and other information before completing this form.

Charge Presented To: Agency(ies) Charge No(s):

 FEPA  
 EEOC

440-2007-06513

**Illinois Department Of Human Rights**

and EEOC

State or local Agency, if any

Name (indicate Mr., Ms., Mrs.)

**Mr. Jovo Blesich**

Home Phone (Incl. Area Code)

**(219) 365-2499**

Date of Birth

**03-04-1958**

Street Address

**8890 Calhoun Place, Crown Point, IN 46307**

City, State and ZIP Code

Named is the Employer, Labor Organization, Employment Agency, Apprenticeship Committee, or State or Local Government Agency That I Believe Discriminated Against Me or Others. (If more than two, list under PARTICULARS below.)

Name	No. Employees, Members	Phone No. (Include Area Code)
<b>CORN PRODUCTS INTERNATIONAL, INC.</b>	<b>500 or More</b>	<b>(708) 563-3524</b>

Street Address	City, State and ZIP Code
<b>6400 South Archer Avenue, Bedford Park, IL 60501</b>	

Name	No. Employees, Members	Phone No. (Include Area Code)

Street Address	City, State and ZIP Code

DISCRIMINATION BASED ON (Check appropriate box(es).)	DATE(S) DISCRIMINATION TOOK PLACE
<input type="checkbox"/> RACE <input type="checkbox"/> COLOR <input type="checkbox"/> SEX <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION <input type="checkbox"/> NATIONAL ORIGIN <input type="checkbox"/> RETALIATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGE <input type="checkbox"/> DISABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify below)	Earliest <b>11-01-2006</b> Latest <b>11-01-2006</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUING ACTION

THE PARTICULARS ARE (If additional paper is needed, attach extra sheet(s)):

I began my employment with Respondent on or about January 8, 1990, and my current position is Operator. I bid for a position in the Lab, and I was not transferred.

I believe I have been discriminated against because of my age, 49 (DOB 03/04/1958), in violation of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended.

**RECEIVED EEOC****AUG 10 2007****CHICAGO DISTRICT OFFICE**

I want this charge filed with both the EEOC and the State or local Agency, if any. I will advise the agencies if I change my address or phone number and I will cooperate fully with them in the processing of my charge in accordance with their procedures.

NOTARY - When necessary for State and Local Agency Requirements

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct.

I swear or affirm that I have read the above charge and that it is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.  
SIGNATURE OF COMPLAINANT

**Aug 10, 2007**

Charging Party Signature

SUBSCRIBED AND SWEARN TO BEFORE ME THIS DATE  
(month, day, year)

\* \* \* Communication Result Report (Jul. 14, 2008 12:28PM) \* \* \*

1) Halls of St George  
2)

Date/Time: Jul. 14, 2008 12:28PM

File No. Mode	Destination	Pg(s)	Result	Page Not Sent
0303 Memory TX	13123534041	P. 1	OK	

## Reason for error

- E. 1) Hang up or line fail
- E. 2) No answer
- E. 3) Exceeded max. E-mail size

- E. 4) Busy
- E. 5) No facsimile connection

To: Sylvia Butros Date: 7/14/08Fax: (312) 353-4841From: Javo Blestich - (219) 613-4844Re: EEOCC Charge # 440-2007-06513Pages: 1 (including this cover page)

## Comments:

I, Javo Blestich, request to review and obtain copies of documents contained in my investigation file.Javo Blestich  
7/14/08

**To:** Sylvia Bustos **Date:** 7/14/08

**Fax:** (312) 353-4041

**From:** Jovo Blesich - (219) 613-4848

**Re:** EEOCC Charge # 440-2007-06513

**Pages:** 1 *(including this cover page)*

**Comments:**

I, Jovo Blesich, request to review and obtain copies of documents contained in my investigation file.

*Jovo Blesich*

*7/14/08*

## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

## AGREEMENT OF NONDISCLOSURE

Pursuant to Section 705(g)(1) of Title VII, the EEOC shall have power to cooperate with private individuals in order to accomplish the purposes of Title VII. This same authority also applies to actions under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## PERSON REQUESTING DISCLOSURE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHARGING PARTY	<input type="checkbox"/> RESPONDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> AGGRIEVED PERSON ON WHOSE BEHALF CHARGE IS FILED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGGRIEVED PERSON IN COMMISSIONER CHARGE	<input type="checkbox"/> NAMED PARTY IN CLASS ACTION
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## ATTORNEY REPRESENTING

<input type="checkbox"/> CP	<input type="checkbox"/> RESPONDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> AGGRIEVED PERSON ON WHOSE BEHALF CHARGE IS FILED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGGRIEVED PERSON IN COMMISSIONER CHARGE	<input type="checkbox"/> NAMED PARTY IN CLASS ACTION
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## CHARGE NUMBER(S) OF FILE(S) TO BE DISCLOSED

440-2007-06513

## STATEMENT

I Jovo Blesich, request disclosure of Commission case files(s) in  
(Print or type name)

connection with contemplated or pending litigation. I agree that the information disclosed to me will not be made public or used except in the normal course of a civil action or other proceeding instituted under Title VII, the Equal Pay Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, or the Americans with Disabilities Act involving such information.

In witness whereof, this agreement is entered into as of the 30 day of July 20 08  
by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission representative named below and the person requesting disclosure.

Jovo Blesich219 558-0505

Person requesting disclosure (Signature and telephone number/area code)

8890 Culbourn Pt Clown Point Inn 46307

Complete address

EEOC representative (Signature and title)



**U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION  
Chicago District Office**

500 West Madison Street, Suite 2800  
Chicago, IL 60661  
(312) 353-2713  
TTY (312) 353-2421  
FAX (312) 353-4041

September 25, 2007

Jovo Blesich  
8890 Calhoun Place,  
Crown Point, IN 46307

Re: **Blesich v. Corn Products International, Inc.**  
EEOC Number: 440-2007-06513

Dear Mr. Blesich:

This is to inform you that I have been assigned as the Investigator for your charge. Presently, I am waiting to receive evidence from the Respondent that you charged with discrimination. When all of this information has been received and analyzed, I will be able to determine what additional steps are appropriate. At any point in this process, I will welcome whatever additional input you may have regarding your charge.

The large inventory of cases currently under investigation in our office may affect the length of time needed to process your charge. You should expect that it will generally require at least six months. We understand that you may be very concerned about your charge when you have not been in contact with us for several weeks or months. Please be assured that the Commission is committed to investigating your charge as expeditiously as possible. We regret that our staff size does not permit us to provide you with more frequent interim contacts without slowing the progress of our investigations. We ask for your understanding and cooperation in this regard.

If it is necessary for you to contact me regarding the investigation of your charge, you may write to me at the above address. Also, if you wish to submit additional information, or report additional complaints of discrimination to us, including reprisal by Respondent against you for filing your present charge, you may do so by writing, or faxing (see fax number above), or by phoning me; I can be reached at (312) 886-4824, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. You may also email me at [sherice.galloway @eeoc.gov](mailto:sherice.galloway@eeoc.gov).

Please be advised that for security reasons, **all visitors to our office must have an appointment, and a photo ID.**

If you need to meet with me for any reason, please contact me for an appointment at (312) 886-4824.

Sincerely,  
*Sherice Galloway*  
Sherice Galloway  
Investigator

Case 13-CB-18747

County of Cook  
SS  
State of Illinois

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Jovo Blesich, being first duly sworn upon my oath, hereby state as follows: I have been given assurances by an agent of the National Labor Relations Board that this affidavit will be considered confidential by the United States Government and will not be disclosed unless it becomes necessary for the government to produce the affidavit in connection with a formal proceeding.

My address is 8890 Calhoun Place, Crown Point, Indiana . My telephone number is 219-613-4848. I am employed by Corn Products International, located at 6400 South Archer in Bedford Park, Illinois.

1       I have worked for Corn Products for almost 18 years – it will be 18 years in  
 2 January. I am an Operator and I operate machinery and computers. Corn Products is a  
 3 food processing facility. I am in the Germ and Oil department. We make crude oil such as Mazela and finished oil. My supervisor is Bill Annuziata, and he is the Extraction  
 4 Supervisor. Annuziata reports to Earl Washington, who is the manager of our  
 5 department. I work on various shifts, and I switch every five weeks, except for day shift,  
 6 which we work 10 weeks at a time. I work all three shifts. I normally work about 44 to  
 7 50 hours a week, on average. I earn \$22.91 per hour. I pay a portion of the premium for  
 8 my health insurance, I pay union dues, and we have a 401(k) plan.

10      At Corn Products, the production employees are represented by United  
 11 Steelworkers Union Local 7-507. Previously, the employees were represented by the  
 12 Chemical Workers Union and also the PACE union. I have been in these unions since I  
 13 started working at Corn Products, once I finished my 3 or 6 month probation. I am  
 14 currently a member in good standing of Local 7-507. My dues are deducted directly from  
 15 my paycheck once a month. We are paid weekly.

16      I used to be a union steward for my team, but I gave this up about three years ago. I  
 17 think that I was a steward from about 2000 to about 2003. This was with the PACE  
 18 union, I think. Or it may have been the Atomic and Chemical Workers. I do not recall if

1 I was appointed or election, but I think that I just took the position because no one else  
2 wanted it. I believe that the current union representatives were also representatives when  
3 I was a steward. I have not run for any union. I have not been active in supporting  
4 anyone for union office, other than to support a steward in my department.

5 Back in November 2005, I put a bid in to work in the Lab. The Lab employees  
6 are represented by the Union as well. I had been talking to Milton Garrett, who worked  
7 in the Lab at the time. I put for this bid because I had had 10 surgeries in the last 17  
8 years and I felt that the Lab work would be less demanding physically. I also knew that I  
9 would have five weeks to transfer back out if I did not like the new job. This option is  
10 per the contract. Garrett and another employee Lab employee named Manning told me  
11 that this job was open, and they told me that they had heard that I was getting the job. At  
12 the time that I put in for the job, it was not yet posted. I gave the transfer request form to  
13 Human Resources. It is my understanding that HR keeps track of the these forms, and  
14 sometimes employees will put in for jobs even though they are not posted. Per the  
15 contract, seniority is the factor for determining who gets a vacant position.

16 I never got the lab job. In October 2006, the Company hired a man named Brian  
17 (I think his last name is Gonzalez) off the street to fill the lab job. When I found out that  
18 the job was filled, I called Eva Perez, who is the Human Resources Associate. I asked  
19 why I did not get the opportunity for the lab job, being that I was the senior man for the  
20 bid. Perez told me that I was blocked by Ray Pierce's transfer. (Employees are blocked  
21 from leaving a department for two years if another employee had either left or transferred  
22 into said department. Ray Pierce had transferred into my department sometime within  
23 two years of October 2006, but he had transferred from on an inter-departmental basis,  
24 from the oil department. I am on the germ side and Pierce had been on the oil side). In  
25 about October or November 2006, I spoke to Robert Orr, who is the department steward  
26 and I asked him to find out why I did not get called to fill the lab job. I asked him to  
27 investigate. Orr later told me that he had talked to Derek Davis, who is the chief steward,



1 and Orr told me to follow up with Davis. I called Davis in about November or December  
2 2006. Davis told me that it was an inter-departmental transfer (the Pierce transfer), and  
3 that it had no effect on me. Davis told me that I was not blocked, that he was following  
4 up on it and that he had it under control. Around this same time, within a few weeks, I  
5 called Perez again and I explained to her that Davis had told me that the transfer had no  
6 effect on me because it was inter-departmental. Perez then said it was because of Ja'man  
7 Lee. (Lee used to work for the Corn Products railroad, which had been dispersed). Perez  
8 told me that Lee had left the Oil side and went to another department. (Lee had in fact  
9 worked on the Oil side for a short time – probably less than a year). Shortly after this  
10 call, I called Davis and I explained to him what Perez had told me about being blocked by  
11 Lee. Davis told me that the railroad guys were under a special stipulation because their  
12 department was closed, and that their moves had no effect on me. At that time, Davis  
13 told me that he had everything under control, and that he was still checking into things.  
14 To that point, I had not filed a grievance because Davis was telling me that I was right  
15 and he was telling me that the union would get everything right. I did not hear from  
16 Davis for at least a couple of weeks, so I tried to reach him in his department (the  
17 powerhouse/boiler house). I was told by someone in that department that Davis was on a  
18 family leave situation – something to do with the passing of his father, I believe.

19 When I could not get a hold of Davis, I spoke with James Kramer, who is the  
20 Vice President of the Union. I think that by this time it was about February 2007.  
21 (Kramer is the VP, but he also works for Corn Products). I told Kramer the story of what  
22 happened with my transfer being blocked and Kramer told me that he felt that I had been  
23 wronged (he agreed with what Davis said about me being wronged). Kramer told me that  
24 he would talk to Chuck Swiney, who is the President (Sminey works Corn Products also).  
25 Kramer got back to me within about two weeks, and he told me, in person, that Swiney  
26 had told him that Davis was handling the situation and that he had it under control. At  
27 that point Davis was back from leave, but I had not heard from him. In about March or

1 April, I ran into Davis in the locker room lobby in the Facilities Building. I told Davis  
2 that a person by the name of Mitchell in the Oil Division, <sup>HAD QUIT</sup> and that the new guy in the lab  
3 could be put in the Oil Division (Building 59) and I could be put into the lab position job.  
4 Davis told me that that was a great idea and he said that he would look into it. I did not  
5 hear back from Davis for a few weeks. In fact, I have heard back from Davis on this  
6 issue at all from Davis, but he has not returned my messages that I left in his department.  
7 (I left messages with other employees in his department but he never got back to me.  
8 When I left these messages for Davis, I told the employees that it was Jovo and for Davis  
9 to call me back. I don't know the names of the employees with whom I left the  
10 messages). I ran into Kramer on about two or three occasions in the facilities building  
11 (this includes the locker room) and I asked him if he knew or heard anything about my  
12 situation but he said no. When I ran into Kramer it was about April 2007. Also in about  
13 April, I was in the locker room and I saw Swiney. I told him that Davis had said that I  
14 was right and that Davis had said that I got screwed out of the transfer. Swiney then told  
15 me that Davis was wrong ~~and that I had nothing coming.~~ He did not explain why this  
16 was the case. He made it seem like Davis was wrong and that I should have known that,  
17 but that was not true because Davis had told me that I did have a case. I did not respond  
18 to Swiney at that time. I think that it was just me and him in the locker room at that time  
19 and there were no other employees around in the area.

20 I was not sure what to do about Swiney's response, nor was I happy that the union  
21 was not helping me with my situation. I talked the Art Powers, a co-worker, and he told  
22 me that he had gotten help from Esther Foster, the International Rep for the union. I  
23 called Foster by phone in about late April to early May 2007. I explained the situation to  
24 her about my not getting the transfer. She promised me that she would look into it and  
25 get back to me. I told her that all I wanted to know was the truth about what had  
26 happened with the transfer. She said that she would investigate. About three weeks to a  
27 month had passed and I did not hear back from Foster, so I left her a voice mail to call



1 me. Foster called me on June 7, 2007 and she told me that I should have gotten a chance  
2 at the position, but that it was my own fault because I waited too long to do anything.  
3 Foster told me that the six month period had expired for me to do anything, and that there  
4 was nothing that the union could do because the time had expired. I do not know if there  
5 is a six month provision in the contract of any kind. I told her that I spoke to her in about  
6 April, and that this was within six months of the person being hired. She said that I was  
7 correct. I told her that I spoke with the other union people even earlier. I told her that I  
8 would not let this lie, and that I would go to the EEOC or Labor Relations. She told me  
9 to do what I felt I had to do.

10 The next day, I ran into Kramer in the locker room. I told him that they were  
11 saying that I waited too long to do anything. He said yes, and I told him shame on you. + HE KNOWS  
12 told him all along that this was supposed to be investigated by Davis. 8/3

13 That was the last time that I spoke to anyone from the union on the issue. In  
14 about the last month, I passed right by Davis but he did not say a word to me. This was  
15 unusual because we know each other.

16 I never filed a grievance over the transfer issue because I was under the  
17 impression that the Union, through Davis, was representing me in the matter. I have not  
18 filed any grievances in the past with the union so I was not familiar with the procedure.

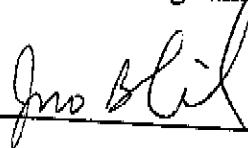
19 I do not have any personal disagreements with anyone from the union. My theory  
20 is that the Union must be in cahoots with the Company on this transfer issue. I do not  
21 have any evidence of this, but I do not know what other reason there could be. I don't  
22 know why the union would allow a man from the outside get the job instead of me. I  
23 don't know why the union did not have me file a grievance. I did not ask to file a  
24 grievance because I did not know that I had to specifically ask to file a grievance over the  
25 issue because I was under the impression that Davis was going to investigate it and take  
26 care of it.



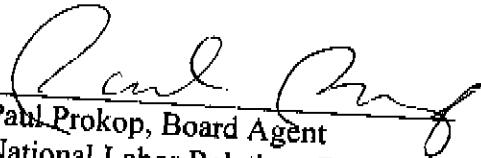
1 As far as I know, Brian is still working in the lab. Last September, I went to the  
2 Company Golf Outing and I talked to Wellington (that is his last name) and I told him  
3 that I was the senior man and that I was looking forward to working in the lab. He said  
4 that he would look into it. So the Company knew that I wanted this lab job.  
5

6 Last September, I returned from a 4 month leave and I had to take a job capacity  
7 test upon my return. During the test, a female therapist asked me to lift a 72 pound bag  
8 over my head. She also asked me to open a 200 pound valve with one hand. I refused to  
9 do these test because this did not simulate any of my work functions. She explained that  
10 the 72 pound bag simulated filter leaves. I explained that filter leaves are changed by two  
11 or three people. I failed the test and I was supposed to go back to therapy. I eventually  
12 went back to work on September 29 after successfully completing an on-job capacity test.  
13 Right after the first capacity test, I talked to Davis about what I was made to do during  
14 the test and he said that he could not believe it. I asked him to look into why I had to do  
15 it and he said that he would look into it but he never did anything about this as far as I  
know. I did not ask Davis about the job capacity situation on any other occasions.

I have read this statement consisting of 6 pages, including this page, I fully understand its  
contents, and I certify that it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
Jovo Blesich

Subscribed and Sworn To Before me at  
Chicago, Illinois, August 10, 2007.

  
Paul Prokop, Board Agent  
National Labor Relations Board

Finally, I am going ahead with this process in order to not allow this to happen to anyone else at Corn Products.

I according to my Union was not given due process on this transfer. I was trying for this job due to the fact that I have had several surgeries and I am a disabled Marine Corps Veteran trying to get a less labor demand position at Corn Products. They claim I was blocked by another employee? But I believe the position I sought was posted prior to the other employee getting the other job. If indeed it was I should have received the 1st chance due to my seniority in plant, as stated in the Union by laws. Thank you for taking the time to review this and my case. I will gladly abide by your findings.

John Blit.